

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-17. (Cancelled)

18. (Currently amended) A method for detecting a mutation comprising performing a melting curve analysis for a nucleic acid having a single nucleotide polymorphism site by using a nucleic acid probe having a 3' terminal cytosine labeled with a fluorescent dye and measuring fluorescence of the fluorescent dye, and detecting the mutation on the basis of the result of the melting curve analysis, wherein the single nucleotide polymorphism is a mutation at the 3243rd position in a mitochondrial DNA, and the nucleic acid probe ~~has~~consists of the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 21 or 22.

19. (Original) The method according to claim 18, wherein a region containing the single nucleotide polymorphism site in a nucleic acid contained in a sample is amplified to obtain the nucleic acid showing the single nucleotide polymorphism.

20. (Original) The method according to claim 19, wherein the amplification is performed by a method of using a DNA polymerase.

21. (Original) The method according to claim 20, wherein the amplification is performed in the presence of a nucleic acid probe.

22-24. (Cancelled)